



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 6

**1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733**

October 20, 2014

Ms. Erin Flanagan, Project Manager
Denver Service Center, Planning Division
National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior
12795 W. Alameda Parkway
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

RE: Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for Big Thicket National Preserve in
Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Orange, Polk, and Tyler Counties in southeast Texas

Dear Ms. Flanagan:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 office in Dallas, Texas, has completed its review of the FEIS prepared by the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service (NPS).

EPA provided comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on June 28, 2013, in which the DEIS was rated as "EC-2", i.e., EPA has "environmental concerns and requests additional information". EPA is pleased that the FEIS includes additional analysis of the proposed action to address our concerns. We have no additional comments and look forward to the receipt of the Record of Decision document.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the FEIS. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kimeka Price of my staff at (214)665-7438 or via email at price.kimeka@epa.gov for assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Craig Weeks", is written over a horizontal line.

Craig Weeks, Acting Chief
Office of Planning and Coordination
Office of Strategic Planning and Analyses